

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/760,180

Examiner

Kevin Bates

Applicant(s)

BAHL, PARAMVIR

Art Unit

2155

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 4-19-06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 16-18, 25-27, 45-50, 54, 63-67, renumbered 1-18.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Bharat Barot
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PRIMARY EXAMINER

Response to Amendment

This Office Action is in response to a communication made on April 19, 2006.

Claims 1-15, 19-24, 28-44, 51-53, and 55-62 have been cancelled.

Claims 16, 26, 27, 45-47, 49, 54, 63-67 have been amended.

Claims 16-18, 25-27, 45-50, 54, 63-67 are allowable.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Michael Colby, Reg. No. 45,816 on June 20, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

Please amend the following claims:

16. A method, comprising:

determining an absolute location of a mobile computing unit, wherein the act of determining the absolute location comprises receiving RF signals and a plurality of RF beacons having known locations and using environmental profiling to establish the absolute location of the mobile computing unit;

periodically transmitting, from the mobile computing unit, the location of the mobile computing unit to a network server together with a user name of a user using the mobile computing unit; and

including an active signal with the periodically transmitted information when the user is actively using the mobile computing unit.

17. The method as recited in claim 16, wherein ~~the computing unit is a mobile computing unit;~~ and the network server is a wireless network server.

25. The method as recited in claim 16, wherein the user actively using the mobile computing unit further comprises the user having used the computing unit to within a pre-defined time period.

26. The method as recited in claim 16, wherein transmitting the absolute location of the mobile computer unit to a network server only occurs upon a request from the network server for the mobile computer unit to update the absolute location of the computer unit.

27. The method as recited in claim 16, further comprising encrypting the absolute location of the mobile computing unit prior to transmitting the absolute location of the computing unit to the network server.

Reasons For Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record does not teach or suggest neither singly nor in combination the features of a method or mobile unit, where there is a mobile computing unit that uses received RF signals from RF beacon to determine its own absolute, exact location using the known beacon locations and an environment profile, then the determined location is then transmitted to a remote location. These differences are located in each independent claim.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Prior Art

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U. S. Patent No. 5508707 issued to LeBlanc, because it discloses using RF measurements to locate a position of a mobile unit.

U. S. Patent No. 5570412 issued to LeBlanc, because it discloses RF measurements to locate a position of a mobile unit.

U. S. Patent No. 6259991 issued Nysen, because it discloses using an environment profile and determining the location of an object.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kevin Bates whose telephone number is (571) 272-3980. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 am - 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on (571) 272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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June 20, 2006

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